

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 1-5 and 7-26 will be pending in the Application.

Claims 1, 3-4, 7-9, 12-13, 19-20, 22, and 26 have been amended.

Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice.

No claims have been added.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 6, to delete the recitation “from 1 to 10% by weight” with respect to (C), and to correct certain stylistic and typographical issues. Support for this amendment can be found at least in claims 1 and 6 as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

Claim 3 has been amended to recite “from 1 to 10% by weight” with respect to (C), and also to correct certain stylistic and typographical errors. Support for this amendment can be found at least in claim 3 as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

The remainder of the claims have been amended for proper dependency and proper antecedent basis, and also to correct certain stylistic and typographical errors. No new matter has been introduced by any of these amendments.

Amendments to and cancellation of the claims, as set forth above, are made in order to streamline prosecution in this case by limiting examination and argument to certain claimed embodiments that presently are considered to be of immediate commercial significance. Amendment or cancellation of the claims is not in any manner intended to, and should not be construed to, waive Applicants' right in the future to seek such unamended or cancelled subject matter, or similar matter (whether in equivalent, broader, or narrower form) in the present application, and any continuation, divisional, continuation-in-part, RCE, or any other application claiming priority to or through the present application, nor in any manner to indicate an intention, expressed or implied, to

surrender any equivalent to the claims as pending after such amendments or cancellations.

Claims 1-5, 10, 11, and 14-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 5,916,635 to Ishii et al. or U.S. Patent Number 6,589,324 to Kamo et al., in view of U.S. Patent Publication Number 2002/0099119 to Craig et al. and U.S. Patent Number 6,565,978 to Pagac et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claim 6 is allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 6. Therefore, it is respectfully asserted that in view of the foregoing amendment, the present rejection is moot and the present claims are allowable over the cited prior art. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the Application and pending claims are patentable in view of the foregoing remarks. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. As always, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the Undersigned by telephone if direct conversation would be helpful.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Tuesday, June 17, 2008

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